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03560.002573.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Examiner: Y. Kassa

KEN-ICHI OHTA)

Group Art Unit: 2625

Application No.: 09/557,912)

Filed: April 21, 2000)

For: COLOR-IMAGE PROCESSING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD,)
AND STORAGE MEDIUM)

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DEC 10 2003

December 2, 2003 Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to continued examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing beginning on page 2; and the Remarks begin on page 7.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

December 2, 2003
(Date of Deposit)

Leonard P. Diana

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Leonard P. Diana
Signature

December 2, 2003
Date of Signature